Compressing Timber.—At the late meeting of the British Association for Science, Mr. C. May explained the merits of the system of compressing timber in iron moulds, and then subjecting them to steam heat, whereby a sufficient amount of contraction was obtained without crippling the capillary tubes. The result of this was, that when used as treenails for fastening down railway chairs, or as wedges for fixing the rails, the timber swelled with the damp, and held the chairs and rails respectively very firmly in their places, and prevented the destruction of the sleepers generally arising from the use of iron spikes.

To Deaden the Sound of an Anvil.—If a chain, about one foot long, formed of a few large links, is suspended to the small end of an anvil, it will destroy, we are told, that sharp, thrilling noise produced by striking on it with the hammer; the vibrations of the anvil are extended to the chain, which absorbs them, without producing any sound. This is worth trying by anybody who has a blacksmith, or, worse yet, a coppersmith, for a neighbour.

Windsor.—The state apartments have been visited by thousands during the past week: and the *Windsor Express* suggests the propriety of meeting this exceptional state of things by throwing them open every day, Sunday inclusive, for the next two months. ——Mr. Pennethorne, surveyor to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, has been engaged in staking out the boundary of Thames-street, as it will be when widened and improved under the provisions of the Castle Approaches Act. The street is to have a clear carriage way of 30 feet, with a flagged pavement of 10 feet on each side. The whole of the remaining houses on the east-side of Thames-street have been purchased.

Cleopatra's Needle.—The recent memoir in our columns has been very generally quoted from and assented to by our contemporaries, and in the *Times* there have been two articles on the subject urging the removal of the trophy to this country.

New Almshouses for Shoreditch.—Nearly 900*l.* having been contributed up to 13th May last for the erection of almshouses for twelve or more single women or widows of advanced age resident in the parish, a site has been purchased at Haggerstone, and endeavours are being made to increase the contributions, so as to enable the committee to carry out the building of the proposed almshouses.

KING COAL AT THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

They drew me forth from my darksome den,
Where for ages I dwelt with night:
They bore me up, and with shouts of men,
They welcomed me into the light.
O'er hill and o'er vale, by steam and by rail,
They conveyed me safe and whole;
Then placed me in state at the Palace gate,
And there I reign, King Coal.

For 'twas mine these walls, with their silvery sheen,
To prepare in their crystal sea;
And the forest of pillars that tower within,
Were molten and shaped by me.
Yon engine that proudly lifts his beam,
The spindles that merrily roll,
The circling wheel and the moving steam,
Are all set to work by King Coal.

The rulers have kept King Coal without,—
Within it is gold that reigns;
But with me there is peace and labour stout,
Whilst gold gathers care with his gains.
In the Palace are beauties to charm the eye,
And riches to tempt the soul,
And canopied couchas where kings may lie;
But their costliest bed of state cannot vie
With a bed of the dark King Coal.

J. (in the *Manchester Guardian*.)

TENDERS

For the erection of six almshouses at Peckham, for the Fishmongers' Company: quantities supplied. Mr. Woodthorpe, architect.

Harding	£7,361 0 0
Bowsell	3,198 0 0
Brown	2,145 0 0
Gammon	2,089 0 0
Locke and Nesham	2,068 0 0

For a mansion for Baron Rothschild, at Chaddington, Warwickshire (exclusive of foundations and fittings), in Runcorn stone.

Grimsdell	£20,721 0 0
Kelk	16,470 0 0
Myers	14,473 0 0

For the new Schools in All Saints' district, Paddington: Mr. R. A. Spurr, architect. Quantities furnished.

Walker	£1,270 0 0
Hird	1,180 0 0
Smith and Appleford	1,167 0 0
Scantlebury (accepted)	1,170 0 0
Holland (not next in time)	1,107 0 0

Delivered at Mr. Wilmot's office, for a house and stabling to be built at Forest-lane, Stratford, for Mr. Fincham.

West	£1,298 0 0
Hill	1,200 0 0
Wilson	1,200 0 0
H. W. Cooper	1,198 0 0
Holmes	1,149 0 0
Curtis	951 0 0

Collarless Passenger Horse, Stage-omnibus Portrons.—The contract for this house, advertised in our columns a week or two back, has been obtained by Mr. John Jones, builder, of Hanley (he being the lowest), at an amount above upon that of the architects' (Messrs. Ward's) estimate. The works have been commenced accordingly.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"C. B.," "Mr. B.," "G. B." (our opinion of the print would do it no service), "Philip" (Kensington Palace contains at this time a collection of paintings by the early masters, and cannot be visited, we believe, without special permission), "J. H.," "T. H. H.," "H. N. G." (too late), "G. C.," "J. S. S.," "L. B.," "J. L. F.," "J. H. S.," "M. A.," "J. D., Gloucester-street" (shall hear from us), "A. M. and Son," "G. W.," "Zeta" (shall appear), "T. D." (we are obliged to decline), "L.," "F. S.," "G. W. C.," "S. H." (shall appear), "C. G." (the observation was made by a correspondent, not by us), "J. E.," "Mr. C.," "Mary," "M. C.," "B. B.," "C." (Cambridge Asylum), "A. J. D." (thanks), "Mr. N.," "E. W. G.," "A Builder" (we will learn), "B. W. W.," "W. A.," "P. D." (we are unable to advise), "G." (shall appear), "G. H.," "W. S." (declined with thanks), "T. A."

"*Books and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

NOTICE.—All communications respecting *advertisements* should be addressed to the "Publisher," and not to the "Editor:" all other communications should be addressed to the Editor, and not to the Publisher.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The EIGHTH ANNUAL CONGRESS will be held at Derby on MONDAY, August 18, and continued to the 23rd, under the patronage of their Graces the Duke of Devonshire and Buccleuch, and the Lord Bishop of Lichfield.

Sir OSWALD MOSLEY, Bart., M.C.L., President.

Papers will be read on various subjects of interest relative to the county of Derby, and excursions will be made to several remarkable spots, as Repton, Melbourne, Ashbourne, Hopton, &c. Tickets (for Gentlemen only), admitting a lady and gentleman, or lady's ticket, 1*l.* 1*s.*, may be obtained of the Treasurer, J. PRITCHARD, Esq., A. Hartington; or of HENRY STEVENS, Esq., Local Secretary, at Derby.

C. BAILY,
A. H. PLASCHE, } Hon. Secs.

THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE and CHESTER and HOLYHEAD RAILWAY.—The GRAND BANQUET to ROBERT STEPHENSON, Esq., M.P., the eminent Civil Engineer, will take place in the Pavilion, at the "George" Hotel, Bangor Ferry, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant. Tickets, 25*s.* each, are now ready, and may be had at the bar of the "George" Hotel; at the Rockingham News Rooms, Liverpool and Manchester; at Rodley's "Adelphi" Hotel, Liverpool; of EDWARD BROOKS, Esq., Secretary to the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company, Euston Station, London; and from ROBERT PRITCHARD, Secretary.—Early application is requested.

Post Office, Bangor, August 10, 1851.

SCHOOL of ART for ARTIST WORKMEN.—An Architect proposes to establish in London a SCHOOL for the purpose of IMPROVING the WORKMAN in the PRINCIPLE and PRACTICE of his ART, and for TEACHING a CLASS of ARTIST-WORKMEN. As the providing a suitable school-room, &c., will entail a considerable expense, subscriptions towards that object are earnestly requested of those gentlemen who feel an interest in the progress of the Fine Arts, and the mental improvement of the workmen. A prospectus of the school, as also a prospectus addressed by workmen, and all other information, will be forwarded on application to C. BRUCE ALLEN, Architect, No. 13, Lower Porchester-terrace, Hyde-park; or 8, Great College-street, Westminster. The advertiser would be glad to meet with some gentleman willing to join him in the school: any one with a general knowledge of art would find it an honourable and profitable investment.

SCHOOL of ART for ARTIST WORKMEN.—JUNIOR STONEMASONS, WOOD CARVERS METAL WORKERS, AND OTHERS connected with the Fine Arts, wishing to improve themselves in the PRACTICE and ART of their several trades, and thus to increase the value of their labour, are invited to join the School. Prospectuses containing the terms of admission and all other particulars will be forwarded on application, by letter, to C. BRUCE ALLEN, Architect, No. 13 Lower Porchester-terrace, Hyde-park; or, 8, Great College-street, Westminster.

TO ARTISTS, ARCHITECTS, AND AMATEURS.

AN Architect, in practice, is about making a tour through North Italy, and is desirous of meeting with a SKETCHING COMPANION.—Address to A. Z. A., office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent-garden.

AN ARCHITECT, who has been engaged in some of the most distinguished works on the Continent, is willing to enter into PARTNERSHIP with a practical architect in England. The highest references may be given.—Letters addressed to Mr. THOMAS DELF, Bookseller, Painter-stainers-hall.

THE PERMANENT WAY COMPANY requires the services of a GENTLEMAN qualified to undertake the MANAGEMENT of their OFFICES and GENERAL BUSINESS. He must be acquainted with the constructions and maintenance of railways. Applications in writing, stating terms, and such other particulars as may be required, to be addressed to Permanent Way Company, care of James Stansell, Esq., 8, Duke-street, Adelphi, on or before the 26th instant.—London, 19th August, 1851.

ASSISTANT SURVEYOR WANTED.—Wanted, an experienced Surveyor, who must be a good draughtsman and competent to perform all the ordinary business of a surveyor's office.—Apply by letter, stating salary expected and last employer, to A. B., Messrs. Cattlemen and Charles's, Lewisham, Mansfield.

A BOOK-KEEPER WANTED, by a Plumber, Glazier, and Painter. He must be able to measure painters' work, and have more knowledge of other parts of the business. Character and security required.—Address DRURY and SMITH, Sheffield.

TOWN TRAVELLER WANTED.—One who has a connection among builders, and is acquainted with the latest and most trades would be preferred.—Letters prepaid, addressed R. G., office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent Garden.—16th August, 1851.

AGENTS WANTED.—The Patent Plaster of Paris Company are desirous of appointing AGENTS in London and the principal towns in the kingdom, for the SALE of PARIS PLASTER, which can now be sold of the very best quality, leaving a good profit to the retailer, at the per ton.—Address to the Company, care of Mr. T. C. Ebsett, merchant, Southampton.

THE Friends of a respectable and well-educated YOUTH, aged seventeen, are desirous of PLACING him with a practical ENGINEER for three or four years. An annual or quarterly payment will be made as may be agreed on.—Letters addressed to A. A., to Mr. Wilson's Stationer, Royal Exchange, will meet with immediate attention.

TO CARPENTERS AND BUILDERS.

WANTED, to place a respectable Youth for five years as INDOOR APPRENTICE to the above. A premium will be given.—Address, post-paid, to A. B. C., 35, Napier-street, Ashley-crescent, City road.

WANTED, in a Builder's office, a YOUTH, about 16 years of age, as DRAWING CLERK, and to assist generally: he must be a clever draughtsman, write a good hand, and have a smattering of accounts.—Apply, by letter only, stating full particulars and salary required, to E. W., care of Mr. Cook, auctioneer, Chatham-street, Somers-town.

WANTED, by a Decorator at the West-end a GENTLEMAN of some knowledge of Architectural Art, and good address. He will be required to see parties on business and be sent in to the office and also to the show-room.—Apply by letter, pre-paid, to J. C., 34 No 6, Stanhope-street, Hampstead-road.

WANTED, a Man used to Superintending the Cutting and Measuring of Sawyers' Work. Also, several more accustomed to the working of large circular saws, to whom good encouragement will be given. None need apply who are not thoroughly acquainted with the work, and can give satisfactory references.—Apply to WILLIAM HASELL, Contractor, Railway Saw Mills, Gloucester.

WANTED, a Situation as PLUMBER, or PLUMBER and PAINTER, &c.; no objections to the country.—Direct J. C., at "The Builder" office, or Hammersmith, Prospect-street, Windsor.

WANTED, a SITUATION in an Architect and Surveyor's Office, by a YOUNG PERSON who has just completed his articles. Salary 30*l.* per annum.—Address, R. H. H., Office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent Garden.

TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

WANTED, by a respectable Young Man, a SITUATION as COACH & GRINDER. Is thoroughly GLAZIER, as CARMAN.—Please to address R. S., at Mr. Londeman's, No 3, John-street, Williamson-square, Clerkenwell.

TO MASTER JOINERS AND BUILDERS IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.

WANTED, by a respectable Young Man, aged 18, a SITUATION as a good shop, where he could acquire improvement, having been with a joiner three years. Wages not so much an object as a comfortable and permanent home in town or country.—Address for a week to C. P., Mrs. Davies, 3, Bell Barn-yard, Aldgate.

TO ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

WANTED, a SITUATION as a PRACTICAL DRAUGHTSMAN. The Advertiser understands and conducted the erection of buildings for the several years in Scotland, England, and on the Continent of an architect. He has also had a considerable experience in writing, and could apply his time to the keeping of books, taking measurements, &c.—Direct, free to D. C., office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent Garden.

TO ARCHITECTS.

A GENTLEMAN is open to an ENGAGEMENT with an Architect in town or country. He is a neat and expeditious draughtsman, and has had good practical experience with an architect in the north of England, on engagement which he has just completed. Satisfactory reference can be given.—Address T. L., 5, Nottingham-road, Islington.

TO PLUMBERS, &c.

A YOUNG MAN, whose apprenticeship is just expired wishes to RIND himself for a short time to be further instructed in the plumbing. No objection to assist occasionally in the painting and glazing.—Address to R. R., at Mrs. Howlett's, 17, Upper Cleveland-street, Fitzroy-square.

TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

A YOUNG MAN, aged twenty, requires a SITUATION as CARMAN, or to look after a horse and chaise, and do utilities or make himself generally useful in a builder's yard. Can have a good character.—Direct J. B., 17, North-street, Maida-hill.

TO ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS, &c.

A YOUNG MAN, accustomed to making finished, working, and detail drawings, draughting out specifications, superintending works, &c., requires a SITUATION as above. Salary moderate.—Address X. Y. Z., office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent-garden.

TO ENGINEERS, BUILDERS, &c.

A GOOD DRAUGHTSMAN and General Clerk acquainted with Railway Works is desirous of EMPLOYMENT in either town or country. Would be happy to make himself useful in out-door work. Salary moderate. Unexceptionable testimonials.—Address, post paid, R. A., office of "The Builder," 1, York-street, Covent-garden.

TO ENGINEERS, STEAM VESSEL OR RAILWAY DIRECTORS, EXPERIMENTALISTS, AND OTHERS.

A PERSON of extensive experience and practice is desirous of taking charge of works as SUPERINTENDENT ENGINEER, or of such as Foreman. Has a thorough knowledge of marine engines and boiler making. No objection to go out of London service.—Apply, prepaid, to A. L., 28, High Holborn.

SAW-MILLS.—Wanted, by a man of experience, a SITUATION as a SAW SHARPENER. He is thoroughly acquainted with all the improvements that have been made in saws of late years, and is capable of taking the MANAGEMENT of a SAW MILL. A situation in the country will be preferred.—Letters addressed to J. F. F., 6, Bishopsgate-street, York street, City-road.